

Date Mailed January 17, 2001
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BEFORE THE  
  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

Application of Madison Gas and Electric Company for Authority to  
Change Electric and Natural Gas Rates

3270-UR-110

**ORDER TO REOPEN  
AND  
NOTICE OF HEARING**

<b>Direct Testimony Due:</b>	<b>Friday, January 26, 2001 – Noon (In-hand to the Commission and Service List)</b>
<b>Rebuttal Testimony Due:</b>	<b>Wednesday, January 31, 2001 – Noon (In-hand to the Commission and Service List)</b>
<b>Hearing Date:</b>	<b>Thursday, February 1, 2001 – 10:00 a.m.</b>
<b>Hearing Location:</b>	<b>Public Service Commission, 610 North Whitney Way, Madison, WI</b>

On April 17, 2000, Madison Gas and Electric Company (MGE or Company) filed an application with the Commission under Wis. Stat. §§ 196.03, 196.20, and 196.37, for authority to increase rates for electric and natural gas service. This application was docketed as 3270-UR-110.

The Commission issued a final decision in docket 3270-UR-110 on December 22, 2000 (Order). The Order contained a forecast of fuel costs, established fuel cost variance ranges, and imposed fuel cost monitoring in accordance with Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 116.04.

Pursuant to Wis. Admin. Code §§ PSC 116.03(1) and 116.06, an emergency rate increase can be granted if the utility's monthly fuel costs will exceed the ranges set in its rate proceeding and the annual fuel costs will be affected so as to exceed the annual range, and the increase in fuel costs is caused suddenly by forces beyond the utility's control or reasonable foresight.

Appendix D of the Order contains the monitored monthly fuel costs by fuel cost per net kWh produced and the cumulative monthly cost per kWh.

On December 29, 2000, MGE filed an application for a rate increase under Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 116.06. MGE asserts its fuel costs will exceed the cumulative ranges and it will

exceed its annual variance for 2001. MGE is requesting an increase of \$2.8 million on a retail basis for 2001. Therefore, the Commission hereby reopens docket 3270-UR-110 under Wis. Stat. § 196.39 to consider the company's application for an increase in rates.

The utility is responsible for giving notice to its customers of the filing of its application with the Commission and, pursuant to Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 2.73, for producing proof of notice at the hearing.

**NOTICE IS GIVEN** that a hearing will be held beginning on Thursday, February 1, 2001, at 10:00 a.m. in the Pecatonica River Room at the Public Service Commission Building, 610 North Whitney Way, Madison, Wisconsin, and continuing at times to be set by the presiding Administrative Law Judge. This building is accessible to people in wheelchairs through the Whitney Way first floor (lobby) entrance. Parking for people with disabilities is available on the south side of the building. Any person with a disability who needs additional accommodations should contact the case coordinator listed below.

Any person desiring to become a party shall file a request pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(2m) and Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 2.32(3) no later than 7 days from the date of this notice. The request shall be addressed to Administrative Law Judge Jeffry J. Patzke, Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, P.O. Box 7854, Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7854.

This hearing will be conducted for the limited purpose of:

1. Determining whether it is reasonable for the Commission to grant MGE's request for an emergency or extraordinary rate increase in a proceeding limited in scope to the question of the increase in fuel costs under Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 116.06(1).
2. Determining what relief is available, based on changes found in MGE's fuel costs.
3. Altering the forecast of fuel costs and the fuel cost variance ranges imposed by the Order, on an interim basis, based on changes found in MGE's fuel costs.

The Commission does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the provision of programs, services, or employment. Any person with a disability who needs accommodations to participate in this proceeding or who needs to obtain this document in a different format should contact the case coordinator listed below.

Questions from the media may be directed to Jeffrey L. Butson, Public Affairs Director at (608) 267-0912.

Docket 3270-UR-110

Questions regarding this matter may be directed to case coordinator Randy Hillebrand at (608) 267-1473.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, \_\_\_\_\_

By the Commission:

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Lynda L. Dorr  
Secretary to the Commission

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